

Service Area Plan

Department of Social Services

Non-TANF Day Care (45215)

Service Area Background Information

Service Area Description

To provide child care assistance to non-TANF families who are working and at risk of becoming dependent on TANF. Child care subsidies are provided through the local departments of social services. Also to increase the quality of child care through funding for training and technical assistance to child care providers.

Service Area Alignment to Missio

By assisting low income families who are at risk of becoming dependent on TANF with child care assistance, we are helping them rise above poverty, become more self-sufficient, shape strong futures for themselves and contribute towards their communities through work.

Service Area Statutory Authority

Federal Legal Basis - The Child Care Development Block Grant (Public Law 101-508) Hunger Prevention Act of 1988

Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, amended PL 101-508 to become the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF); legislation which establishes the work requirements associated with the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant and establishes the Child Care and Development Fund Block Grant to increase the availability, affordability and quality of child care, serving TANF and other low-income families through child care subsidies.

Federal Regulation – 45 CFR, Parts 98 & 99, which set the regulations for the state Lead Agency to administer the CCDF

State legal Basis - §§ 63.2-616 of the Code of Virginia, which allows local department to provide services to families who are not receiving TANF.

Service Area Customer Base

Customer(s)	Served	Potential
Children and Families (potential-unlimited)	55,878	0
General Public (served unknown, potential-unlimited)	0	0
Local Departments of Social Services	120	120
Providers (Child Care Providers) (potential-unlimited)	10,300	0

Anticipated Changes In Service Area Customer Bas

There are no anticipated changes in the customer base.

Service Area Partners

Community Action Agencies

Local Departments of Social Services

State agencies

Virginia Institute for Social Services Training Activities (VISSTA)

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Service Area Products and Services

- Child Care Provider Scholarships
- Child Care Provider Training and Technical Assistance
- Support of organizations serving communities
- Services to promote family stability
- Economic assistance to low income families/individuals or nutrition, child care, health care eligibility, and financial assistance to low income families/individuals
- Services that promote self-sufficiency
- New Parent Kit

Factors Impacting Service Area Products and Services

The need for subsidies for child care for low-income families not associated with TANF continues to grow. In July 2005, the waiting list of potentially eligible families is 3,453. These are families who need child care assistance, but for whom there is not enough funding to provide the assistance. Recent research has highlighted that the earliest years of a child's life are the most important for healthy development, and becoming ready to succeed in school and later life. Approximately 65% of children aged five and under are in some form of child care, but there are many types of care and varying levels of quality available for families. Likewise, the cost of child care can be more than a year of college tuition, making child care a major expense for low-income families. The Department has to balance investments in mandated child care subsidies for TANF families with the need to increase subsidies for other low-income families, as well as increase the overall quality of the child care that is available.

Anticipated Changes To Service Area Products and Service

The federal legislation that guides CCDF is included in the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996, which was slated for re-authorization in 2002. At some point, re-authorization will occur. The proposed legislation includes increased mandates for increased work activities for more TANF families, which will require more investment in child care subsidies. This will lower the amount of funding available for other eligible low-income families, who, by definition, are already at risk of becoming dependent upon TANF. Re-authorization will also require increased investment in the quality of child care, therefore exacerbating the tension between investments in child care subsidies and quality.

Service Area Financial Summary

Funding for the Non-TANF Day Care program comes from general funds (14.3%) and federal funds (85.9%). The federal funds come from Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) – Discretionary, Mandatory and Matching funds.

	<u>Fiscal Year 2007</u>		<u>Fiscal Year 2008</u>	
	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund
Base Budget	\$14,156,976	\$86,127,491	\$14,156,976	\$86,127,491
Changes To Base	\$24,555	\$86,662	\$24,555	\$86,662
SERVICE AREA TOTAL	\$14,181,531	\$86,214,153	\$14,181,531	\$86,214,153

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Service Area Objectives, Measures, and Strategies

Objective 45215.01

Increase the number of low-income families not associated with TANF who are served through child care assistance

CCDF federal legislation requires that child care subsidies are provided for families who are at risk of becoming dependent upon welfare (TANF). Over the past few years, eligible low-income families not associated with TANF who receive child care assistance outnumber TANF families who receive child care assistance. Child care subsidies for these families serve as a prevention measure against becoming dependent upon TANF. This objective will help focus service efforts on the low-income population that is not mandated to receive child care assistance, but needs the assistance in order to avoid TANF.

This Objective Supports the Following Agency Goals:

- Enhance the independence, well-being and personal responsibility of customers
(Providing child care for children in low-income families not associated with TANF is strategically aligned with the mission of the agency. It also supports the Council on Virginia's Future long term objective of "Inspire and support Virginians toward healthy lives and strong, resilient families". Although not a mandated service, child care assistance for low-income families works to support self-sufficient strong families)

This Objective Has The Following Measure(s):

- **Measure 45215.01.01**

Non-TANF children who receive child care subsidies

Measure Type: Output

Measure Frequency: Quarterly

Measure Baseline: 35,158

Measure Target: 1% increase for each fiscal year

Measure Source and Calculation:

The data will be captured through the Child Care Interim System, in which local departments report client and case specific expenditures each month. An unduplicated count of children by program area can be calculated.

Objective 45215.01 Has the Following Strategies:

- Secure resources and identify process efficiencies to handle caseload growth.
- Leverage community partnerships in outreach.
- Develop and implement a marketing plan.